Improved academic, social and emotional outcomes for middle and high school students

The Apprenticeship Approach

Accelerating Learning in Secondary Education

To be career and college ready, secondary students need to understand increasingly complex texts, synthesize information from multiple sources, and construct evidence-based arguments. To master this demanding work, they also need to become learners who persevere, solve problems, and collaborate.

Reading Apprenticeship is a research-based approach to both classroom instruction and professional learning that supports academic and social emotional learning. Our highly designed professional learning experiences give teachers new knowledge and tools to “apprentice” their students by sharing their expertise as readers and thinkers in their subject area. Through increased metacognitive conversation and collaboration routines, students become aware of their own thinking, and they develop the skills, persistence, and confidence to understand challenging texts.

Since 1996, more than 150,000 educators and one million students have worked with Reading Apprenticeship. As part of WestEd, we value strong partnerships with educators, districts, and state agencies of every size and geographic location so that ever more teachers and students become lifelong learners. From large urban schools in New York City to small rural districts in Alaska, we have been able to support teaching and student learning goals in very diverse settings.

Visit our website to read implementation and success stories: ReadingApprenticeship.org/impact/success-stories/

“I think Reading Apprenticeship is the vehicle we use to bring back hope and life to our students who have had to ‘sit and get’ education for so many years.”

—Middle School Principal

Professional Learning Services

Contact us to find services that support your teacher and student learning goals.

Our suite of services and resources can help you quickly get started implementing the Reading Apprenticeship approach. Short and long-term partnerships are the way to accelerate and sustain instructional and learning shifts for teachers and students. We can help design district-wide, multi-year initiative plans to fit your goals. Contact us today.

Options for Professional Learning

- Institutes in your district
- Online courses
- Blended institutes and coaching (online and in person)
- Literacy Plan Consultation
- Teacher leader, coach and admin training
- National teacher institutes for school or district teams
Evidence and Praise

- Multiple studies show that Reading Apprenticeship produces:
  - Improvement on standardized tests
  - Significant impact on reading comprehension scores
  - Substantial grade improvement in core academic classes
  - Improved engagement and collaboration
- Meets “Strong Evidence” requirement for ESSA middle & high school programs (evidenceforessa.org)
- Strongest rating of “SELECT” in the CASEL Guide for social emotional learning and academic programs (casel.org)
- Recipient of many competitive research, innovation, and dissemination grants from the U.S. Department of Education

Research summaries, reports, and success stories can be found at ReadingApprenticeship.org

Why Reading Apprenticeship works

Collaborative, supportive learning environments
Teachers and students learn to enact academic and social emotional learning routines which lead to stronger relationships, deeper dialogue, and personal grit.

Engaging with texts
Teachers offer students many opportunities to read in class and engage their peers in text-based dialogue. Through text-based disciplinary literacy routines, students gain deeper content knowledge and become more independent readers and learners.

Metacognitive conversations
Students and teachers think and talk about how they learn, not just what they learn. Surfacing students’ thinking helps them take control of their learning and positively influences their perceptions of themselves as learners.

The finest blend I have seen of research, strategies, and classroom vignettes to deepen teacher learning.”
—Curtis Refior, Content Area Literacy Coach

I have learned many reading strategies from this course. I believe I could put any kind of book in front of me no matter how hard and I would be able to get through it.”
—12th Grade Student

How Reading Apprenticeship Improves Disciplinary Learning in Secondary and College Classrooms
This third edition of our core book offers subject area teachers new knowledge and practical tools to engage their students in reading challenging texts.

Learn more at ReadingApprenticeship.org/publications

Visit ReadingApprenticeship.org